1	2	3	4	5
20.	Tamil Nadu	69.37	90.70	72.77
21.	Tripura	7.10	1.90	2.78
22.	Uttar Pradesh	153.73	133.76	118.66
23.	West Bengal	116.68	80.90	63.49
Union Territory				
24.	Chandigarh	9.31	8.37	8.14
25	Delhi	108.81	105.89	44.06
26.	Pondicherry	2.43	2.52	1.33

Stock of Old Foodgrains

2084. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government still hold a lot of old foodgrains in their godowns; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and also for their non and distribution to the people especially during the last year when there was shortage and prices of foodgrains rose very high?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. (A small quantity of) Around 4.82 lakh MTs of Goodgrains is lying in the godowns of FCI which are more than two years old.

(b) although FCI follows the principle of First-in-First-out in disposal of stocks, due to certain unavoidable circumstances such as movement constraints, closure of depots, upgradation procedures, operational exigencies, low offtake by states, non- acceptance of old stock by some State Governments in PDS etc., such accumulation cannot be eliminated. Last year, FCI issued foodgrains not only under PDS but also under Open Market Sale Scheme(D) to have a sobering affect on the market prices. FCI also auctions old stocks of foodgrains by open tenders.

Infrastructural Facilities for Mushroom Processing

2085. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for creation of infrastructural facilities for processing of mushroom in the country ;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ;

(c) the number of States covered under the scheme and the financial assistance given for the purpose, State-Wise ; and

(d) the criteria fixed for giving financial assistance to backward States like Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar for implementation of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (d) During the 9th Five Year Plan, including 1997-98, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries proposes to implement a Plan Scheme to provide assistance to joint/assisted sector undertakings, cooperatives, private sector undertakings, non-Governmental organizations, Voluntary organizations, etc. for setting up of infrastructural facilities for cultivation and processing of mushrooms in the country.

Financial assistance to the Joint/assisted sector undertakings would be available in the form of interest-free loan. In the case of private sector undertakings, cooperatives, Voluntary Organizations and State public sector undertakings belonging to North-Eastern States including Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh financial assistance would be available in the form of grant-in-aid. The financial assistance would be available to the implementing organizations for setting up of compost pastuerisation facilities, spawn lab and canning & processing facilities for mushrooms.

The State-wise details of financial assistance provided during the 8th Five Year Plan are given in the attached Statement.

No specific criteria has been fixed for providing financial assistance for mushroom projects to be set up in backward States like Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar in implementation of the Scheme. Financial assistance by the Ministry is provided on the basis of technical & economic viability of proposal received.

Statement

The statewise details of Financial Assistance provided for setting up of infrastructural facilities for Cultivation & Mushroom processing during the VIIIth Five Year Plan

Name of the State		Amount of Assistance Released (Rs. in Lakhs)
1		2
Andhra Pradesh	-	25.oo
Assam	-	20.91
Bihar	-	6.18
Himachal Pradesh	-	23.65
Haryana	-	14.00
Maharashtra	-	126.12
Manipur	-	2.67